

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. An information system, comprising:
a vendor-managed web site for:
receiving purchasing information from a first terminal, including purchasing
information that is customized for a customer, the customer including first
and second users having respective first and second levels of authorized
10 access to the purchasing information, the first user being identified by a
first identifier, and the second user being identified by a second identifier;
and
to a second terminal, providing access to: only a first portion of the purchasing
information in response to receiving the first identifier from the second
15 terminal which identifies the first user; and at least a second portion of the
purchasing information in response to receiving the second identifier from
the second terminal which identifies the second user, wherein the second
portion includes at least a part of the first portion and a third portion of the
purchasing information, wherein the part of the first portion includes at
20 least a portion of the customized purchasing information, and wherein the
customized purchasing information includes a listing of configurations, so
that the customer at the second terminal can submit an online order to the
vendor-managed web site in response to the configurations.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the first portion includes the portion of the
25 customized purchasing information.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the first portion includes a first portion of the customized purchasing information, and wherein the third portion includes a second portion of the customized purchasing information.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for providing
5 access to the second terminal via a URL.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the URL is an unlisted URL.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the customized purchasing information includes status information related to the online order.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the status information includes shipping data.

10 8. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for outputting a notification to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal is notified of a shipment of the online order.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for providing access to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can enter an identifier
15 for routing the customer to a specialist at the first terminal.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the customized purchasing information includes a listing of a team member at the first terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can access the listing for making contact with the team member.

11. A method performed by an information system, the method comprising:

at a vendor-managed web site, receiving purchasing information from a first terminal,
including purchasing information that is customized for a customer, the customer including first
5 and second users having respective first and second levels of authorized access to the purchasing
information, the first user being identified by a first identifier, and the second user being
identified by a second identifier; and

to a second terminal, providing access at the vendor-managed web site to: only a first
portion of the purchasing information in response to receiving the first identifier from the second
10 terminal which identifies the first user; and at least a second portion of the purchasing
information in response to receiving the second identifier from the second terminal which
identifies the second user, wherein the second portion includes at least a part of the first portion
and a third portion of the purchasing information, wherein the part of the first portion includes at
least a portion of the customized purchasing information, and wherein the customized purchasing
15 information includes a listing of configurations, so that the customer at the second terminal can
submit an online order to the vendor-managed web site in response to the configurations.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the first portion includes the portion of the
customized purchasing information.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the first portion includes a first portion of the
20 customized purchasing information, and wherein the third portion includes a second portion of
the customized purchasing information.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the providing access comprises:
providing access to the second terminal via a URL.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the URL is an unlisted URL.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein the customized purchasing information includes status information related to the online order.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the status information includes shipping data.

18. The method of claim 11 and comprising:

5 outputting a notification to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal is notified of a shipment of the online order.

19. The method of claim 11, wherein the providing access comprises:

 providing access to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can enter an identifier for routing the customer to a specialist at the first terminal.

10 20. The method of claim 11, wherein the customized purchasing information includes a listing of a team member at the first terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can access the listing for making contact with the team member.

21. An information system, comprising:
a vendor-managed web site for:

receiving purchasing information from a first terminal, including purchasing
5 information that is customized for a customer, the customer including first
and second users having respective first and second levels of authorized
access to the purchasing information, the first user being identified by a
first identifier, and the second user being identified by a second identifier;
and

10 to a second terminal, providing access to: only a first portion of the purchasing
information in response to receiving the first identifier from the second
terminal which identifies the first user; and at least a second portion of the
purchasing information in response to receiving the second identifier from
the second terminal which identifies the second user, wherein the second
15 portion includes at least a part of the first portion and a third portion of the
purchasing information, wherein the part of the first portion includes at
least a portion of the customized purchasing information, and wherein the
first identifier includes a first user identifier and a first password, and
wherein the second identifier includes a second user identifier and a
20 second password.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the first portion includes the portion of the
customized purchasing information.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the first portion includes a first portion of the
customized purchasing information, and wherein the third portion includes a second portion of
25 the customized purchasing information.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for providing access to the second terminal via a URL.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the URL is an unlisted URL.

26. The system of claim 21, wherein the customized purchasing information includes
5 status information related to the online order.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the status information includes shipping data.

28. The system of claim 21, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for outputting a notification to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal is notified of a shipment of the online order.

10 29. The system of claim 21, wherein the vendor-managed web site is for providing access to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can enter an identifier for routing the customer to a specialist at the first terminal.

30. The system of claim 21, wherein the customized purchasing information includes a listing of a team member at the first terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can
15 access the listing for making contact with the team member.

31. A method performed by an information system, the method comprising:
at a vendor-managed web site, receiving purchasing information from a first terminal,
including purchasing information that is customized for a customer, the customer including first
and second users having respective first and second levels of authorized access to the purchasing
5 information, the first user being identified by a first identifier, and the second user being
identified by a second identifier; and

to a second terminal, providing access at the vendor-managed web site to: only a first
portion of the purchasing information in response to receiving the first identifier from the second
terminal which identifies the first user; and at least a second portion of the purchasing
10 information in response to receiving the second identifier from the second terminal which
identifies the second user, wherein the second portion includes at least a part of the first portion
and a third portion of the purchasing information, wherein the part of the first portion includes at
least a portion of the customized purchasing information, and wherein the first identifier includes
a first user identifier and a first password, and wherein the second identifier includes a second
15 user identifier and a second password.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the first portion includes the portion of the
customized purchasing information.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein the first portion includes a first portion of the
customized purchasing information, and wherein the third portion includes a second portion of
20 the customized purchasing information.

34. The method of claim 31, wherein the providing access comprises:
providing access to the second terminal via a URL.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein the URL is an unlisted URL.

36. The method of claim 31, wherein the customized purchasing information includes
25 status information related to the online order.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the status information includes shipping data.

38. The method of claim 31 and comprising:
outputting a notification to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second
terminal is notified of a shipment of the online order.

5 39. The method of claim 31, wherein the providing access comprises:
providing access to the second terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can
enter an identifier for routing the customer to a specialist at the first terminal.

40. The method of claim 31, wherein the customized purchasing information includes
a listing of a team member at the first terminal, so that the customer at the second terminal can
10 access the listing for making contact with the team member.